

Monday, December 12, 2016 – For immediate release Contact – Jessica L. O'Neil, Communications Director, (716) 858-8808

## Legislator Rath allocates funding for Akron Community Band

**(ERIE COUNTY, NY)** – Erie County Legislator Edward A. Rath, III is pleased to announce that \$2,500 was approved for the Akron Community Band at the Dec. 6, 2016 annual budget meeting to support the band's community concerts and special events.

"The Akron Community Band has been entertaining residents throughout Erie County for decades and also works very hard to continue this tradition on a limited budget. I am pleased the county was able to step up and help the Akron Community Band at this time," said Legislator Rath.

"We deeply appreciate the funding for the Akron Community Band in the 2017 Erie County budget. While our organization is 100 percent volunteer, there are an increasing number of expenses such as insurance, mileage stipends, equipment, and new music which stretch the dollars currently available to us and this funding is critical to our continued service to the community," said ACB President Thomas J. Mudd. "Our audience and musicians come from various communities in Erie County, joining a nearly 100 year history of quality outdoor summer concerts offered with no admission charge. This additional funding is vital and we thank Erie County Legislator Ed Rath and the entire Erie County Legislature, as well as County Executive Mark Polancarz for their support."

The additional funding was added into the 2017 budget without increasing overall spending in the next fiscal year. In fact, the property tax rate will decrease for the third consecutive year.

For information or assistance, please contact Legislator Rath's Legislative Office at (716) 858-8676 or email Edward.rath@erie.gov.

###